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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,183	07/10/2003	Stephen Epstein	MEDIV2010-4	4304

28213 7590 04/01/2005

DLA PIPER RUDNICK GRAY CARY US, LLP
4365 EXECUTIVE DRIVE
SUITE 1100
SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-2133

EXAMINER

AKHAVAN, RAMIN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1636

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

4

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No. 10/618,183		Applicant(s) EPSTEIN ET AL.	
Examiner Ramin (Ray) Akhavan		Art Unit 1636	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 18 March 2005 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The reply was filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing an appeal brief. The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☒ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

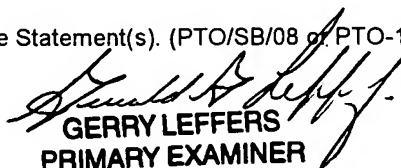
4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____.
Claim(s) objected to: _____.
Claim(s) rejected: _____.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☐ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
13. ☐ Other: _____.


GERRY LEFFERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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The new issue for search and/or consideration is that as proposed, base claim 17 would be drawn to direct injection into any muscle tissue of any organism, which would require further search/consideration. As such, methods for enhancing collateral blood vessel formation would be of entirely different scope, because previously the site of administration was limited to heart and limb muscle tissue.

In addition, with regard to claims directed to compositions comprising early attaching cells from bone marrow cells, the proposed amendments delimit such cells as no longer being therapeutic, which is in stark contrast to what is disclosed in the specification and what was originally claimed. Moreover, said cells are delimited to "contain an adenoviral vector comprising [genes encoding various angiogenic factors]". Therefore, the proposed amendment introduces new issues for consideration, because the claims would read on early attaching cells inherently containing said adenoviral vectors, as opposed to being transduced with said vectors as previously delimited.

Furthermore, the proposed amendments set forth new claims 47-48. Claim 47 depends from claim 17 and introduces the new issue of culturing early attaching cells to produce one or more unspecified agents, prior to direct injection into muscle tissue. As written, it is unclear as to what manner if any, culturing early attaching cells to produce unspecified agents in culture medium relates with directly injecting early attaching cells in muscle. As examined, a culturing step was directed to produce early attaching cells, thus the proposed amendment is directed to different subject matter altogether (i.e., culturing to produce unspecified agents). Furthermore, the angiogenic agents produced are specifically delimited in claim 17, whereas claim 47 is directed to "produce one or more agents", thus claim 47 is not further limiting. In addition, claim 47 recites "the composition" which does not find antecedent support in base claim 17.

As to claims 48 and 49, the new issues are injection in multiple sites versus a single site, more particularly injection of 12 to 25 sites. The claims previously did not delimit the number of injection sites nor does the range for the number of injection sites (i.e., 12 to 25 sites) appear to be disclosed in the specification.

Because Applicant's arguments in the After Final submission are predicated on entry of the proposed amendments, said arguments are rendered moot by non-entry of the proposed amendments.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ray Akhavan whose telephone number is 571-272-0766. The examiner can normally be reached between 8:30-5:00, Monday-Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Remy Yucel, PhD, can be reached on 571-272-0781. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for regular communications and 703-872-9307 for After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Akhavan/AU 163